
Introduced by Senator Torlakson
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Canciamilla)

February 21, 2003

An act to add Section 5002.25 to the Public Resources Code, relating to parks and recreation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 978, as introduced, Torlakson. State parks: John Marsh Home.

Existing law provides that all parks, public campgrounds, monument sites, landmark sites, and sites of historical interest established or acquired by the state, or that are under its control, constitute the State Park System, except the sites and grounds known as the State Fair Grounds in the City of Sacramento, and Balboa Park in the City of San Diego, and prescribes procedures for the classification or reclassification of units of the state park system.

This bill would require the department, consistent with the requirements regarding the classification of a unit of the state park system, to take action, at the earliest possible time, to ensure that the John Marsh Home, and the property surrounding the home, is classified as a unit of the state park system.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares the
2 following:

1 (a) Dr. John Marsh was the first American physician to settle
2 in California and one of the first prominent settlers to extol the
3 virtues of the state.

4 (b) Dr. Marsh also ran a large cattle ranch that served as an
5 important stopover for settlers traveling between Sutter's Fort in
6 Sacramento and San Francisco Bay area destinations.

7 (c) Dr. Marsh built one of the largest homes in the area that was
8 constructed with materials native to California.

9 (d) Dr. Marsh's home is of great historical significance and
10 deserves to be preserved as a state park historic site.

11 SEC. 2. Section 5002.25 is added to the Public Resources
12 Code, to read:

13 5002.25. Consistent with the requirements of this article
14 regarding the classification of a unit of the state park system, the
15 department shall take action, at the earliest possible time, to ensure
16 that the John Marsh Home, and the property surrounding the home,
17 is classified as a unit of the state park system.

